



## **Statement of Rights**

People who receive services from the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs and its network of contracted service providers have the same legal rights and responsibilities guaranteed to all other individuals by the United States Constitution, and federal and state law as well as the Universal Declaration Of Human Rights proclaimed by the United Nations.

These rights include, but are not limited to, the following:

### ***1. The right to be informed about your rights***

- Rights and personal freedoms shall not be denied or limited except by due process of law.
- You have the right to have someone of your own choice assist you in understanding and exercising your rights

### ***2. The right to be free from discrimination***

- No person shall be subjected to discrimination because of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, creed, marital status, disability, or sexual orientation.
- You have the right to exercise the rights of citizenship in the same manner as a person with out a disability

### ***3. The right to be free from harm***

- To be free from any kind of abuse or punishment (verbal, mental, physical, and/or sexual).
- To be free from unnecessary medication, restraints, seclusion, and restrictions.
- To express concerns and complaints, without fear of retribution (i.e., not have someone “get even” with you).

### ***4. The right to dignity, respect and privacy***

- To be treated respectfully

- To make choices about your life.
- To be informed about and attend any meetings held about you
- To be informed about and give your consent prior to your participation in any medical treatment or restrictive program
- To appear before a Human Rights Committee when you disagree with your treatment or programs
- To meet with and talk privately with friends and family members.
- To send and receive mail
- To make and receive phone calls
- To personal privacy
- To confidentiality of personal and other records.
- To have services delivered in the least restrictive environment possible.
- To set rules in your own home
- To decide whether or not to participate in research after the research has been explained to you, and not unless you or your legal representative give written consent for you to participate.
- To have a drivers license
- To marry or divorce
- To make purchases
- To own property and do with it as you choose
- To wear your clothes and hair the way you want.

#### ***5. The right to prompt medical care and treatment***

- To access health care that meets your needs.
- To know what your doctor wants you to do or take and to help plan how that will happen.

#### ***6. The right to religious freedom and practice***

- To attend the church of your choice.

**7. *The right to receive a free appropriate public education.***

**8. *The right to social interaction and participation in community activities***

- To choose activities and schedules that meets your needs.
- To vote and help people get elected to office.

**9. *The right to physical exercise and recreational activities***

**10. *The opportunity to be gainfully employed***

- To have a job and to be paid a fair wage.
- To manage your money or choose other persons to assist you.
- Full disclosure and access to your money as requested.

Resources: United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights; Constitution of the United States of America; Civil Rights Act of 1964; Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); Fair Housing Act of 1963 amended in 1988; Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA); Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); Miranda Rights; Olmstead v. L.C. 1999; Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Fair Housing Act; New Freedom Initiative; South Carolina Code of Law; “All About Rights. A Guide to Supporting the Rights of People with Intellectual Disabilities”, CQL

I certify that the above rights were reviewed with me on this date \_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Person's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**Declaration**

**Of**

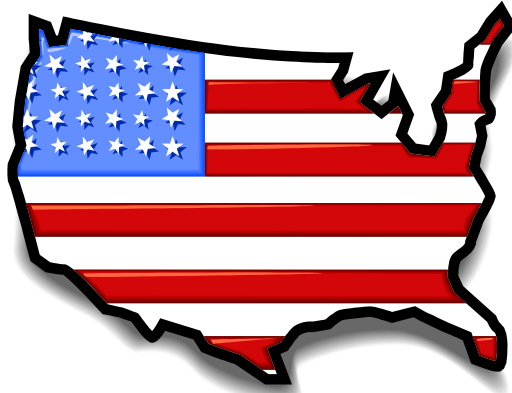
**My Rights**

**You have the same rights and responsibilities  
guaranteed to all other Citizens**



**by the United States Constitution**





**And federal**

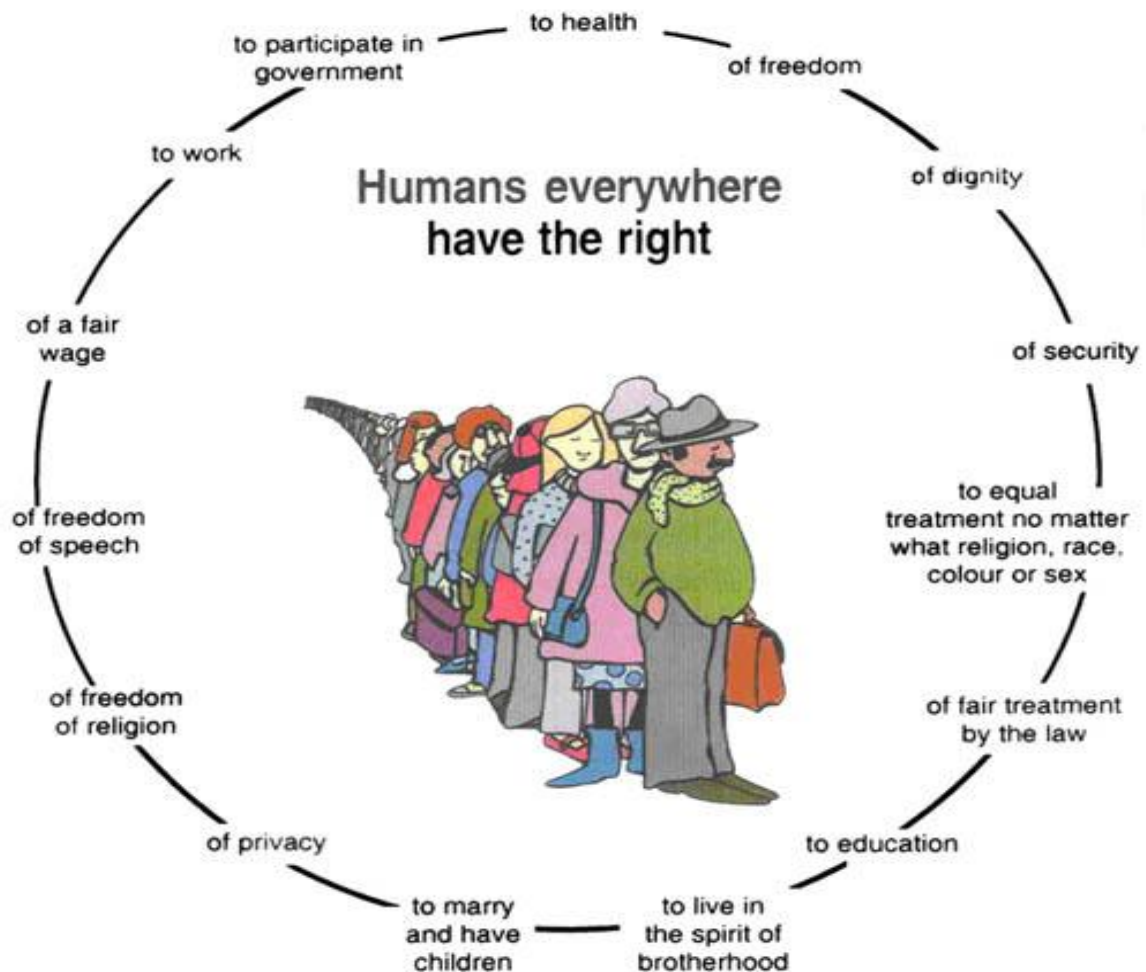


**And state**



**Law**

as well as the **Universal Declaration Of Human Rights** proclaimed by the **United Nations**.



**These rights include, but are not limited to:**

**The right to be free from harm**



## The right to dignity and respect



## The right to make choices



**The right to be informed and attend any meetings about you**



**The right to receive and make phone calls**



**And send and receive Mail**



## The right to get a driver's license



## The right to privacy



## **The right to prompt medical care and treatment**



## **The right to go to the church of your choice**



# **The right to socialize and participate in the Community**



# **The right to physical exercise**



## **The right to have a job and earn a fair wage**



## **The right to handle your own money**



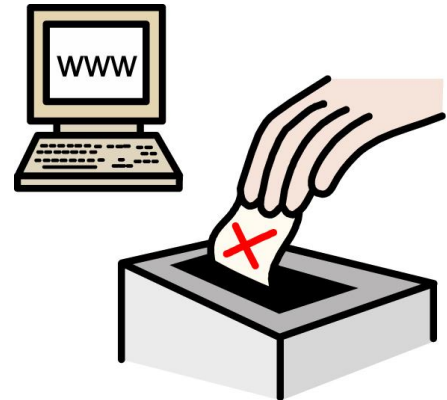
**The right to get married**



**Or get a divorce**



**You have the right to vote**



**You have the right to not be discriminated against**



Resources: United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights; Constitution of the United States of America; Civil Rights Act of 1964; Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); Fair Housing Act of 1963 amended in 1988; Health Insurance Portability

and Accountability Act (HIPPA); Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); Miranda Rights; Olmstead v. L.C. 1999; Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Fair Housing Act; New Freedom Initiative; South Carolina Code of Law; “All About Rights. A Guide to Supporting the Rights of People with Intellectual Disabilities”, CQL

I certify that the above rights were reviewed with me on this date \_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

by \_\_\_\_\_.

(Signature)

(title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Person's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)